

Summary: Many Regions, Many Cultures

Different Places, Different Cultures

A culture region is an area of the world in which many people share similar beliefs, history, and languages. They may have religion, technology, and ways of earning a living in common as well. The people may grow and eat similar foods, wear similar clothing, and build similar houses.

There are seven culture regions in the world. Many countries in a culture region share a common climate and landscape. They may share a common religion or history.

Not every person in a region belongs to the same culture. Some regions are multicultural. For example, in the United States and Canada most people speak English. Some people in Canada speak French and some in the United States speak Spanish. In both countries, there are many religions. There are Catholics, Protestants, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, and others.

Culture regions have changed as they have borrowed culture traits from one another. They have also come to depend on each other economically. Advances in transportation and communication have increased this interdependence. When oil-producing nations in the Middle East raise the price of oil, for example, the price of gasoline at your local station is likely to rise. More and more, people of different countries are becoming part of one world.



Before You Read

Find and underline each vocabulary word.

culture region *noun*, an area of the world in which many people share similar beliefs, history, and languages

interdependence *noun*, the economic, political, and social dependence of culture regions on one another



After You Read

REVIEW Name two characteristics that make the United States

multicultural. Draw a box around two characteristics that make the United States multicultural.